

C1
Cont

layers are separated by a distance of no more than the size of at least one particle of said particles.

Please add new claim 20 as follows:

C2
7-20

A multilayer ceramic capacitor comprising:
internal electrode layers; and
dielectric layers, the dielectric layers comprising particles, wherein an average particle diameter (R), in a direction parallel with said internal electrode layers, is larger than a thickness (d) of said dielectric layer, wherein a ratio (R/d) between said average particle diameter (R) and the thickness (d) of said dielectric layer satisfies $1 < R/d < 3$, and wherein the internal electrode layers are separated by a distance of no more than the size of at least one particle of said particles.--

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 14 and 16-20 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended; claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 15 are canceled; and claim 20 is added.

Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

I. THE CLAIMS SATISFY ALL FORMAL REQUIREMENTS

The Office Action objects to claims 4, 8, 11, 13 and 15 because of informalities. In response, claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 15 are canceled to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. THE CLAIMS DEFINE PATENTABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,205,014 to Inomata et al.; claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,319,517 to Nomura et al.; claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C.

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